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ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Selma Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

Towncreek Baptist Church, Dallas County, Ala.,

August 16th and 17th, 1898.

H. S. D. MALLORY, Moderator, Selma, Ala.
M. H. TRAYLOR, Treasurer, Mt. Gilead, Ala.
LEWIS JOHNSON, Clerk, Orrville.

The next meeting will be held with the Second Baptist Church, Selma, Tuesday, after the Second Sunday in August, 1899.

☞Any money for State, Home or Foreign Missions may be sent to Dr. W. C. Bledsoe, Montgomery, Ala Any money for Ministerial Education may be sent to Dr. C. C. Jones, Treasurer of Howard College, East Lake, Ala.

MIRROR JOB PRINT, SELMA, ALA.

MINUTES.

The Selma Baptist Association assembled at 10 o'clock A. M. with Towncreek Baptist Church, Aug. 16th, 1898. Devotional services were led by Brother J. H. Riffe, reading Phillippians 2nd chapter, 1st to 18th verse inclusive, and singing hymn "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name," after which Mr. H. S. D. Mallory called the body to order and appointed the committee on credentials as follows: Bros. Miles Hardy, W. H. Traylor and D. B. Edwards.

The Association engaged in singing while the committee prepared the following report:

Ash Creek— Bradley.

Benton—Charles Canty, E. S. Martin, W. S. Walker and Jack Dudley.

Center Ridge—Gus Burton, J. P. Skinner.

Selma, 2nd Church—J. F. Savell.

Selma, 1st Church—H. S. D. Mallory, Law Lamar, A. J. Dickinson, H. A. Haralson, W. P. Welch, J. J. Babcock and T. P. McCrary.

Towncreek—J. B. Powell, W. C. Stewart, Miles Hardy, R. B. Hardy, T. E. Whatley and Byrd Whatley.

Sister Springs—A. J. Day, J. W. Day, Charles Hooper, J. P. Melton and S. D. Morgan.

Bethany—W. J. Dunklin, D. G. Lyon, and Robert Arnold.

Shiloh—D. B. Edwards, H. V. Hatcher, H. H. Miley, P. S. Hain and E. H. Lide.

Providence—Lewis Johnson, J. R. Hines and Frank Averyt.

Pleasant Hill—J. W. Bailey, F. C. Riggs, T. E. Williams, J. P. Maxwell and Eugene Bailey.

New Bethel—H. H. Haygood.

Mt. Gilead—M. H. Traylor, J. M. Lamar and James Boyd.

Orrville—A. J. Dunaway and J. F. Watson.

Hopewell—O. A. Coleman.

The following officers were elected for the present session:

Bro. H. S. D. Mallory, Moderator.

Bro. M. H. Traylor, Treasurer.

Bro. Lewis Johnson, Clerk.

Bro. T. P. McCrary, Assistant Clerk.

Order of business as printed in Alabama Baptist was adopted.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats in the association as follows: Bro. J. H. Riffe, Missouri, Bro. J M. Roden, Bethel Association Bro. J. E. Barnes, Cahaba Association; Bro. J. W. Stewart, Orphans Home.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Bro. J. F. Savell, text John 1st and 4th, "In him was Life." After which the report on Sunday Schools was made by Chairman Law Lamar, which was discussed by Brothers Law Lamar, J. F. Savell, J. W. Stewart, W. A Parker, and J. M. Roden.

Intermission from 12 :30 to 2 :30 P. M.

August 16th, 1898.

2 :30 P. M. Devotional exercises led by Bro. J. I. Kendricks, after which the Sunday School report was taken up and further discussed by Bros. T. P. McCrary, A. J. Dickinson and H. S. D. Mallory. Report adopted. See Appendix A.

By request of Bro. Johnson, Bro. T. P. McCrary was elected assistant clerk.

The report on Education was then read by Bro J. B. Powell. Discussion opened by Bro A. J. Dickinson, in the absence of Bro. Patrick, followed by Bros. Watson and Stewart. Report adopted. See Appendix B.

The pastor and deacons of Towncreek church were appointed a committee on Religious Exercises, and reported that Bro. Watson preach at 8 :15 P. M. on the 16th, and Bro. Roden at 8 :15 P. M. on the 17th.

Report of committee on Ministerial Education was made by Bro. J. I. Kendrick, chairman. Discussion opened by Bro. J. F. Watson. The report was adopted. See Appendix. C.

Report of Committitte on Orphans Home, Bro. D. B. Edwards, chairman, was made, and on motion of Bro. J. F. Watson, discussion of the subject was postponed until 9 o'clock, P. M.

The Association adjourned to meet at 8 P. M. for religious services.

The Association was called to order by the moderator and the subject of the Orphans Home taken up. Discussion was opened by Bro. J. W. Stewart, of the Home. By request of Bro. Powell, Bros. Parker, Sr., W. Kendrick, W. Whatley took up a collection for the Home, amounting to $8.76. Report was adopted. See Appendix D.

Association adjourned, prayer by Bro. Parker, Sr.

Approved Aug. 17th, 1898.

H. S. D. MALLORY, Moderator.

Soapstone, Ala., Aug. 17th, 1898.

The Association met at 9:30 A. M. Devotional exercises were conducted by Bro. W. A. Parker, Sr., and the minutes read and approved. The following committees to report during the present session were appointed :

On Finance—Miles Hardy, D. B. Edwards, J. W. Bailey, T. E. Whatley and Charles Canty.

On Nominations—J. B. Powell, Jack Dudley, J. W. Bailey, James Boyd and O. A. Coleman.

On Time and Place—A. J. Dunaway, S. D. Morgan, W. J. Dunklin, Lewis Johnson, J. W. Bailey, H. V. Hatcher and H. A. Haralson.

On Apportionment—W. P. Welch, S. W. Walker, Russell Watson, W. C. Stewart, J. P. Melton, D. P. Lyon, W. H. Miley, J. R. Hines, S. P. Riggs, W. H. Traylor, J. A. Watson and J. P. Skinner.

State of Religion in the Churches—J. W. Fortune, J. I. Kendrick, H. A. Haralson and J. E. McMullen.

Report of Committee on State Mission read and discussed by W. A. Parker. Report adopted. See Appendix E.

Report of Committee on Foreign Mission, J. M. For-

tune, Chairman, discussed by Bros. Powell and J. I. Kendrick. Report adopted. See Appendix F.

Brother Law Lamar suggested that there was an erroneous impression among the laymen that our preachers only had the right to express themselves before the Association, and he wished to eleminate the same and hoped that the layman would speak out.

Home Mission.—In the absence of Brother Paul Johnson, Brother J. M. Fortune made a report and opened the discussion. Report adopted. See Appendix G.

At this time Brother Howard of the Alabama Baptist was introduced and recognized by the Convention.

Missionary sermon by Brother J. I. Kendrick from Romans 1.20, after which Brother Parker, Sr., requested that a collection be taken for mission work. The Moderator appointed a committee who collected $5.17. Prayer by Brother Sawell and intermission taken until 2:30.

SECOND DAY.—AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2:30 the Convention was called to order by the Moderator, minutes of the morning session read and approved.

Report of Committee on Temperance read by Mr. Lewis Johnson, Chairman. Discussion opened by Brother W. C. Stewart, after which the report was adopted. See Appendix H.

Standing committees to report in 1899 appointed as follows:

Standing Committees to report to session of 1899.

On State Mission.—J. I. Kendrick, E. S. Martin, J. C. Yates, T. E. Whatley and Chas. Hooper.

On Foreign Mission.—J. F. Watson, W. J. Dunklin, D. B. Edwards, J. R. Hines and J. P. Maxwell.

On Home Mission.—H. A. Haralson, M. H. Traylor, A. J. Dunaway, J. P. Skinner and O. A. Coleman.

On Sunday Schools.—W. P. Welch, H. H. Haygood, S. W. Walker, Gus Barton and R. B. Hardy.

On Temperance.—J. W. Bailey, S. D. Morgan, D. G. Lyon, H. V. Hatcher and Frank Averyt.

On Education.—A. J. Dickinson, Eugene Bailey, Jas. Boyd, Jack Dudley and T. P. McCrary.

On Ministerial Education.—J. B. Powell, J. J. Babcock, W. C. Stewart, A. J. Day and Chas. Cantey.

On Literature —Law Lamar, J. P. Melton, Robert Arnold, E. H. Lide and P. S. Hain.

On Woman's Work.—J. F. Savell, Jas. Boyd, T. E. Williams, Russell Watson, G. W. Stewart and C. L. Butler.

On Orphans Home.—Miles Hardy, J. W. Day, M. H. Miley and Bird Whatley.

Report of Committee on Woman's Work was presented and read by Brother J. F. Savell, and after discussion by Brother J. I. Kendrick, the report was amended by motion of Brother Law Lamar, that a committee of women be appointed by the Moderator to arrange for a meeting of the women at our next association, and was then adopted. See Appendix I.

The following committee was appointed; Mesdams Law Lamar, H. A. Haralson, J. F. Savell, E. J. Hardy, J. B. Powell, J. E. McMullen, Misses Zadee Ellis, Sadie Rudulph, Sallie J. Hardy, Edna Johnson.

The report on Literature was read by Brother J. F. Savell, discussion opened by Brother M. H. Simmons and continued by Brethren J. F. Savell and J. A. Howard and was then adopted. See Appendix J.

The report of the Committee on Finance was then read and adopted. See Appendix K.

The report of the Committee on Nominations was submitted and adopted. See Appendix L.

The report of the Committee on Apportionment was adopted. See Appendix M.

The Committee on Time and Place recommended Tuesday, after the second Sunday in August, 1899, and the Orrville Baptist Church at Orrville, Ala., as the place for our next meeting. An amendment was offered by Brother Savell, that the Second Baptist Church at Selma,

be substituted for the Orrville Baptist Church. The report was adopted with the amendment. See Appendix N.

The report of the Committee on State of Religion in Churches, J. M. Fortune, chairman. Report adopted. See Appendix O.

Brother Powell moved that the same Executive Committee be retained. Carried.

Brother Welch moved that the Executive Committee prepare and publish a program for our next session. Carried.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That this Association return a vote of thanks to the Town Creek Baptist Church for the excellent manner in which they have entertained the Association. Especially to the good women for their bountiful hospitality and to Pastor Powell for his untiring efforts in carrying delegates to and from trains. Adopted.

The report of the Treasurer was received and adopted and ordered spread on the minutes. See Appendix P.

Brother Powell moved that our next session meet at 11 o'clock a. m., and remain in session three days. Carried.

Brother Savell moved that the amount of cash in hand for mission work be turned over to Brother Parker, Sr., for such work as he thought best.

The Association adjourned at 5 p. m., with prayer by Brother J. E. Barnes.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—APPENDIX A.

While our churches and denomination generally may concede the importance of Sunday Schools, we fear this Association is not active and progressive in seizing and improving opportunities along this line, and we trust in the discussion of this subject our brethren will not only call our attention to our faults and failures, but give us some remedies and new ideas.

Your committee observes that our young people are growing up without proper knowledge of the scriptures and the doctrines of our denomination, and we appeal to pastors, teachers and parents to awaken to a sense of their oblegations.

We find our schools almost composed of the young of tender age, when it should embrace all ages. Now the growth of this great denomination of ours is in such a great measure dependent on our schools for both spiritual and numerical advancement that we urge the pastors to give more time and attention to this branch of their church work. Superintendents should have their schools so conducted to prove a spiritual blessing and interesting to all ages. Teachers in order to do the most good must attend regularly and promptly. Striving to impart and teach only the doctrines of the scriptures.

Parents to a great extent are responsible for the ignorance of their children in the scriptures and should at least give as much time to their spiritual education as to the secular. Parents and children should attend the Sunday School together.

We notice much improvement in the Sunday School literature of the Southern Baptist Convention, which is located at Nashville, Tenn , and recommend that schools give it their entire support, sending their orders direct to the Secretary of the Board.

We recommend that we observe Children's Day on the Third Sunday in September as our Sunday School Board has named that date and will furnish literature free for the occasion. We recommend graded classes in our schools when practical. We recommend that churches request their pastors to preach one or more sermons to the children during the year.

Law Lamar, Chairman.
Henry Myly,
W. J. Dunklin,
O. A. Coleman,
R. B. Hare.

The term education is derived from a Latin word (eduro, eduran, eduratum), which means to train up, as a child, to rear and to culture; and it is etymologically one with another Latin word (eduro, edureu, eduratum), which means to lead forth, to draw out.

So this makes the distinctive idea in education, to be educated. It implies the existence in man of latent germs, properties, and capacities (call them as you please), which need to be developed by disciplinary training, before a man can be master of his profession or trade, thus gaining success and giving a high degree of satisfaction to patrons.

Our state has found it necessary to charter and establish institutions to make men proficient in medicine, law, agriculture, etc., as a safe-guard against a system of quackery that would ultimately bring superstition and ruin.

Now the question arises can we as the Israel of God, a denomination laboring to extend the borders of the Redeemer's kingdom, expect a destiny more friendly to our interests without a general intelligence on the part of our people at large.

If apathy, indifference and neglect are to furnish the answers, it would seem so. For all over our State, in the families of the great Baptist host can be found bright and intelligent boys and girls, year after year, sacrificed on an altar of industrial greed and worldly gain, when their place is in the school room until a perfected physical, mental and moral growth befits them for the paths of labor and the duties of church and citizenship.

While sister denominations are making rapid strides, we seem to have forgotten that education is at once the refuge of society, the highest need of a civilized government and the demands of the church of God.

As to facilities, we are amply prepared as a denomination to educate and even polish our boys and girls. With several associational schools, all doing a fine work. Howard College, under Prof. F. M. Roof; the A. C. F. College at

Tuscaloosa, and our own Judson—who went up to the last Convention with a happy message of debt paid—has closed a prosperous session under Dr. Patrick; the school has a fine future before it.

Now, if alive to our best interests as a denomination, pastors, laymen and all of us will push the work of education until it shall reach a more glorious end.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Powell,

Chairman.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.—APPENEIX E.

Ministerial Education has, in the opinion of your committee, been rightly defined as the physical, mental, moral and spiritual development of those whom God has called to preach the gospel. It is the education of men in the ministry rather than for the ministry.

Paul exhorts Timothy in 2nd Timothy. second chapter and fifteenth verse, to "give diligence" to show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth. And again, in writing to the church at Ephesus, in the twelfth verse of the 4th chapter, he clearly indicates that one purpose for which the office of pastor and teacher was given was that of so instructing christian believers that they would be fully equipped for service and hence for "building up the body of Christ." God has also given the office of evangelist, which seems to have special reference to the preaching of the gospel to the unsaved. One man however, may be both a pastor and teacher and evangelist. Now to do this work successfully, requires physicel, mental and moral preparation on the part of those who are to do it. Thus we see that ministerial education lies at the foundation of all christian and denominational progress.

It is a source of pardonable pride to your committee that Baptists have not been slow to recognize the great importance of a well trained ministry. This is shown by the number and character of their institutions for literary and

theological training. We believe that one evidence of a man's call to preach is his self-sacrificing efforts to obtain the best training possible for him. We would strongly urge the importence of self-help in ministers in obtaining the training they need. But, at the same time, we believe that no man called of God to preach, should be allowed to go without training, because of lack of means. We believe further, that God has placed upon the churches the duty of contributing regularly, liberally and cheerfully to such as need help in this way and that the church that neglects this interest is guilty of ingratitude to God.

Your committee calls attention to those who study at Howard College, and at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary from our State, as having special claim on our benevolence, and respectfully recommend that the churches divide their contributions to ministerial education between these two classes in proportion to the number of each needing help.

Respectfully submitted,
JAS. I. KENDRICK,
For Committee.

REPORT ON ORPHANS HOME.—APPENDIX D.

The name of the orphanage is Louis Short Baptist Widow's and Orphan's Home.

The first steps towards its establishment was when Mrs. M. L. B. Woodson made known to the State Baptist Convention in November 1890, that she would give her real estate for the maintainance of a Baptist Widow's and Orphan's Home in Alabama.

The Home which was temporialy located at Evergreen in January, began operations on March 10th, 1893, in a small building rented for the purposé. Brother John W. Stewart, the present Financial Secretary, being at that time paster of the Baptist Church at Evergreen, was placed in charge. By November of that year there had been col-

lected into the Home, twenty-two children. The trustees after mature consideration, decided to locate the Home permanently at Evergreen, and property was bought at that place consisting of eighty acres of land, thirty acres of which was in farm, thirty in pastures and twenty in woods. The buildings were a ten room brick building and three tenant houses. The purchase price amounting to $5,400. including interest on defered payments, was promptly paid. Important improvements have been made by which we have another brick building with eleven rooms and all the former house thoroughly renovated and much improved; adequate water works and a complete system of sanitation. These improvements cost $3,500, all which has been paid except ..... The Home is behind at this time on current expenses about ..... The management desires to dedicate this property on October 20th of this year, and they are asking the friends of the Home to send them enough money so that these balances may be paid so they may offer the Home to the Lord free of debt.

The boys are taught to do farm work. The girls do various kinds of house work. All attend school and also Sunday School and church. Twelve of them have been baptized. The current expenses amount to six dollars per month for each child. Since the Home was started there have been gathered into it forty-one boys and forty-nine girls. Out of it have gone by apprenticeship, two boys; returned to their people, seven boys and seven girls; by adoption eleven boys and eleven girls, irregularly two boys, by death one boy, leaving now in the Home eighteen boys and thirty-one girls.

These children come from twenty counties: Barbour 3, Bibb 2, Butler 3, Chambers 1, Conecuh 2, Covington 8, Escambia 11, Jefferson 12, Lee 6, Limestone 1, Marengo 4, Monroe 4, Morgan 3, Montgomery 2, Pike 2, Russell 1, Talladega 8, Tallapoosa 2, Tuskaloosa 9 Walker 6.

From the above we learn that the Baptists of Alabama have abundant cause to thank God for the signal success of this noble work and for pressing on until we make it what

it ought to be. We trust the work may continue to grow in the hearts of the people.

In addition to the regular contributions for maintainance of the Home, we recommend that the churches send immediately enough money to pay balance due on improvements, that the property may be dedicated on the 20th of October free of debt.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE MISSIONS —APPENDIX E.

Your Committee on State Missions, beg to report that during the last year this board has prosecuted evangelistic work in the rejuvenating and reviving of churches in country sections where signs of decline was observed.

In the work there has been six evangelists engaged for all of this time. Brother Preston in Southeast Alabama, Brother Parker in Southwest, Brother Sandlin in Northeast Alabama and Brother Shackelford along the Tennessee river, Brother Watkins in and around Birmingham and the Secretary in East Alabama.

We have reason to believe that their labors have been blessed with divine favor and much good in strengthening the things that remain has been accomplished.

Besides the evangelistic work the board has sustained missionary pastors at important weak points, such as Dallas Avenue, Huntsville, East Selma, South Montgomery and other like points. There is a constant and growing demand for this work and its effectiveness is proven by its fruits. Through this kind of work some of the best and most liberal churches in the state have been planted and developed.

Besides this work of State Missions, this Board is charged with raising funds for the Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention. We regret to report that there has been a falling off in the contributions of our brethren to Home and Foreign Missions and the State Board hopes to set on foot in the near future steps to restore the interest of our people in this great work.

The Board no longer deals in Sunday School literature it having been found best for all concerned for the churches to order their literature directly from the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., Dr. J. M. Frost, Secretary. Churches will please take notice and hereafter send their orders to Nashville. Yet this Board advocates and urges the work of the Sunday School Board as the other two boards of the Southern Baptist Convention. We would call special attention to the Bible work of that board as worthy of the benevolence of our people.

A. J. Dickinson, for Committee.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.—APPENDIX F.

The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention made a very encouraging report at the last meeting of the Convention.

MISSIONARIES

There nre now connected with our work seventy-six missionaries and one hundred and seventeen native assistants. Four new missionaries have been appointed, viz: Rev. E. A. Nelson and wife, and Miss Bertha R. Stenger to work in Brazil, and Mrs. W. W. Lawton, formerly Miss Ida C. Deaver, of the Methodist Mission, who on October 14, 1897, was married to Rev. W. W. Lawton, and joined the Baptist Church, to work in China.

Dr. J. H. Eager and wife, Rev. D. A. Wilson and Brother W. P Winn has resigned the Foreign Mission work. Information is received that Dr. W. D. Powel and perhaps other missionaries in Mexico have also resigned.

Mrs. W. P. Winn was called by the Master to her reward from the coast of Africa, Aug. 29, 1897.

WORK.

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701 converts have been baptised on the fields in which our missionaries have been laboring and "new centers of interest opened to the messengers of the cross." In their

last report the Board says: "When we review seven years —that is, from 1891 to 1898—we find that in 1891 we had 38 main stations, 2377 members, 361 baptisms and the contributions from the home churches were $111,600.03. Since 1891 our missionaries have baptised 4,122 professed believers. This number is much larger than the entire membership in 1891. Surely we have here great cause for gratitude and great incitement for more vigorous effort."

FINANCIAL.

Seven years ago Southern Baptists contributed $111,600.03 to Foreign Missions. The last conventional year were contributed $124,249.66. The board went to the convention in 1896 burdened with a debt of $31,900.71. In 1897 with a debt of $13,532 79. This year the board reports to the convention: "Everything paid and $2,975.96 in the treasury." For this we should "thank God and take courage."

But what shall we say of the work in our own association? Seven years ago the 721 Baptists of the Selma Association contributed $323.92, or 45.57 cents per capita to Foreign Missions. Last year our 1134 members contributed $250.59, or 22.37 cents per capita to Foreign Missions. Surely some of our churches need an awakening of the missionary spirit. Alabama Baptists last year gave 4.9 cents per capita to Foreign Missions. The Baptists of the south gave 84 cents per capita to this cause. While our missionaries and native Christians in foreign fields give $1.35 per capita.

The board the past year paid $2,020.68 interest on borrowed money. If contributions were made early and regularly this heavy interest would not have to be paid.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

Seven churches in Mexico are said to be self sustaining. Several in China are also reported. In Africa a railroad is being built and good wagon roads are being constructed, and a telegraph line is put up. All of which will do much to develop that country and aid our work.

The Foreign Journal has attained a circulation never reached before. Twenty-two thousand copies or more are printed monthly. It is earnestly desired that the circulation be increased to thirty thousand copies.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. FORTUNE, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS—APPENDIX G.

Our Home Mission Board has been pressing its work vigorously during the past year. Much has been done, but much yet remains to be done. The new territory recently, and it seems providentially came into the possession of our country may become a part of the field of our Home Board. Already Bishop Ireland of the Roman Catholic Church, acting under instructions from the Pope, is bringing great pressure upon the President of the United States to grant to the Romanist Church all the privileges enjoyed by that church under the Spanish government.

You know what that means. We recommend that a committee be appointed to forward a suitable protest from this association to our government against granting any privileges to the Catholic Church not enjoyed by other denominations. We also recommend more earnest prayer, and more liberal contributions for this board.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. FORTUNE, for Committee.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.—APEENDIX H.

Your Committee beg to say that this is a branch of our work which has been sadly neglected. Though the work has made some progress in the past year.

The territory of this Association is practically prohibition, except in the city of Selma, and we hope that at some time the liquor traffic shall be eliminated from our entire association and even State.

We need to persevere in the work and cultivate a healthy, vigorous sentiment against the habit of drunken-

ness and inculcate into the minds of our people a higher notion of such things. Our churches need to exercise a more positive discipline to the correction of the habit of drink on the part of their members, being that the Lord exhorts to "look not upon the wine cup when it is red."

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS JOHNSON, for Committee.

WOMAN'S WORK.—APPENDIX I.

Your committee feels that this subject has been given too little attention by the Selma Association. The splendid work done by our women in the various departments of our churches should be encouraged by this body as it is by our State and Southern Baptist Convention. This work is growing in influence and in practical results.

In addition to many boxes which they have sent to cheer the homes of faithfal, but poor toiling missionaries on the frontiers of the west, they have made the following contributions in cash during the last conventional year:

To the Home Board	$35,636.24
To the Foreign Board	21,633.51
To the Sunday School Board	1,023.76
Total contributed	$58,293.51

In order to encourage this work we recommend that the pastors of this Association take under advisement this especial work, organize Woman's Societies wherever a society does not already exist and urge the women to prepare a report for the next meeting of the Association.

2. That the Executive Committee arrange a meeting for the delegates from these societies to be held in connection with the next Association, said meeting to be conducted by the women themselves.

J. F. SAVELL, for Committee

That the Moderator appoint a committee of women to arrange for a woman's meeting at our next Association.

Amended by Mr. Law Lamar.

The world was never fuller of books and papers than at present. There have been few agents more capable of corrupting or elevating the youth of the land than the literature that floods the earth. There has never been a time when a strict censorship over our literature was more needed than now. Every day bright and promising youths are having their minds corrupted by papers and books printed in such elegant dress and racy verbage that even the best people are induced to read them just for the sake of the authors style. Much of the literature sold upon trains and at book stores is too vicious to have emenated from a South Sea Islander. Better not read at all than read that which leaves its contaminating influence upon the entire life.

Parents cannot be too careful what their children read. The companionship they find in their books and papers has a more persistent influence on them than that they meet in flesh and blood on the street. Let us watch the door into the inner sanctuary of our children's minds and hearts. This is one of the cases where the positive treatment is much more effective than the negative. Bright, cheery, wholesome papers, full of pictures and healthy life and good books are better defenses against bad literature than any amount of "don'ts."

If you must read fiction let it be of the character of Ben Hur or E. P. Roe's works. If it is a daily paper you want, the clean ones are few. If religious weekly, for us the Alabama Baptist, printed in Montgomery, is of first importance. If you would learn about missions, take the Foreign Mission Journal, printed in Richmond, Va., and the Home and Field, printed in Atlanta. If you want Sunday School literature, Brother J. B. Collier will be pleased to serve you from his office in Montgomery, or J. M. Frost, Nashville, Tenn., can furnish you.

J. F. Savell, for Committee.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE.—APPENDIX L.

To preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. A. J. Dickinson.

To preach Missionary Sermon, Rev. A. F. Dix.

Delegates to State Convention.—Bros. Richard Stewart, D B. Edwards. J. P. Maxwell, J. F. Savell, T. P. McCrary, W. H. Simmons, W. E. Mealing, B. F. Ellis, Evans Hinson, A. Edwards.

Delegates to Southern Baptist Convention—J. B. Powell; alternate, J. F. Watson.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. STEWART, for Committee.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.—APPENDIX M.

CHURCHES.	Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Orphans' Home.	Totals.
Selma, First church.	$ 500 00	$ 50 00	$ 120 00	$ 670 00
Ash Creek	10 00	5 00	5 00	20 00
Benton	15 00	5 00	5 00	25 00
Bethany	30 00	10 00	10 00	50 00
Center Ridge	30 00	10 00	10 00	50 00
Mt. Gilead	60 00	20 00	20 00	100 00
Hopewell	25 00	10 00	5 00	40 00
Orrville	150 00	25 00	25 00	200 00
Pleasant Hill	60 00	20 00	20 00	100 00
Providence	75 00	25 00	10 00	110 00
Selma, Second church	35 00	20 00	5 00	60 00
Sister Springs	10 00	5 00	5 00	15 00
Shiloh	50 00	10 00	10 00	70 00
Town Creek	80 00	15 00	50 00	145 00
Macedonia	5 00	5 00	5 00	15 00
New Bethel	5 00	5 00	5 00	15 00
Ruhama	5 00	5 00	5 00	15 00
Total	$1140 00	$ 245 00	$ 315 00	$1700 00

Respectfully submittee,

W. P. WELCH,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON TIME AND PLACE.—APPENDIX N.

Time, Tuesday, after the Second Sunday in August, 1899; place, Orrville Baptist Church, Dallas County, Ala. as the place for our next meeting. An amendment offered by Brother Savell that the Second Baptist Church at Selma, be substituted for the Orrville Baptist Church. Amendment adopted. Report adopted with amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. DUNAWAY,
Chairman of Committee.

STATE OF RELIGION.—APPENDIX O.

Your Committee reports: We have examined the report of the churches made to this Association through their church letter, and find that the churches have contributed to all benevolent causes $653.74. or about 52 cents per capita. Only 17 baptisms are reported; 12 churches do not report a prayer meeting, 6 do not report a Sunday School. From these and other facts we feel compelled to report the spiritual temperature low.

We recommend more practical Godliness in our homes as the home is the source of the influences that curse or bless the world. Respectfully submitted.

J. M. FORTUNE, Chairman.

TREASURERS REPORT.—APPENDIX P.

M. H. Traylor, Treasurer.

In account with the Selma Association Aug. 11, 1897.

To amount from Finance Committee	$111.31
Aug. 11, 1897.	
By voucher No. 1, W. C. Bledsoe	$ 86 00
By voucher No. 2, J. F. Savell	25 30
	$111 31

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. TRAYLOR, Treasurer.

Audited O. K.

M. HARDY, Chairman.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1898.

Churches.	State Mission.		Home Missions		Foreign Missions.		Ministerial Education		Howard College.	Orphan's Home.		Minutes.	Home Expenses.		Woman, Young People Society.				Value of Property.	Collected for all Purposes.
	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.		Pastor's Salary.	Repair, the Poor Etc.	Missions.	Education.	Home Expenses.	Orphan's Home.		
Ash Creek																		$		
Benton		$ 13 71		$ 3 35	$ 2 60						$ 5 37	$ 2 30	$ 176 00						$ 1000	$ 27 33
Bethany	$ 1 02	1 96		2 55	1 12	$ 3 57	$ 2 44	$ 2 95			6 00	2 00								31 40
Center Ridge		22 11				4 05					1 10	1 25			$4 65					33 16
Hopewell		3 00										1 25	125 00	$ 25 00				$ 10 00	1000	39 25
Macedonia																				
Mt. Gilead		24 20						4 95			14 04	2 00	150 00				5 00	13 14	2000	65 00
New Bethel	2 50						2 50			$1 25	2 50	50							500	9 25
Orrville												1 50								
Pleasant Hill	4 00		$ 1 50			14 70		8 20		2 00	6 60	1 50	210 55	27 95		$ 16 01	$4 98	10 39	1000	97 88
Providence		20 76		6 75		14 35		7 71			5 20	3 60	381 50	40 00		5 00		9 00	800	2000	118 17
Ruhama																				
Selma, 1st church	360 00				70 00		40 00					5 00	2 000							
Selma, 2nd church		5 00							$5 00			3 00		88 85		114 96		54 15	500	302 96
Shiloh		7 79									32 45		200 00	42 77						83 01
Sister Springs		6 20	1 50	50	1 50	55	12	1 81		3 30		1 00	85 00	5 00		19 10		6 88	600	34 25
Town Creek		7 00		3 00		6 00		3 50		1 25	52 25	1 55	300 00			21 11		106 00	1200	114 76
Total	367 52	$111 73	$ 3 00	$ 16 15	$55 22	$ 43 22	$45 06	$ 29 12	$5 00	$7 80	$ 125 51	$25 85	$3 328 05	$ 229 57	$4 65	$205 18	$4 98	$199 42	$26 14	$ 9300	$956 52

STATISTICS OF SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1898.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK AND POST OFFICE.	S. S. SUPERINTENDENT AND POST OFFICE.	Members'p last Rep't'd	INCREASE				DECR'SE				Present Membership	SUND. SCHOOL.					Preaching Sabbath.
						By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Voucher.	By Restoration,	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Erasure.	By Death.		Officers & Teach'rs	Pupils.	Av'age Attend'ce	Bapt'd from S.S.	Periodicals.	
Ash Creek	Lowndes				10															
Benton	Lowndes	W. H. Simmons	E. S. Martin, Benton	E. S Martin, Benton	22	3	1			3				23	5	29	12	3	1	4 h
Bethany	Lowndes	W. A. Parker, Jr.	J. N. Lyon, Collerene	A. Edwards, Collerine	43					1				42	5	45	25	7	31	4th
Center Ridge	Dallas				34															
Mt. Gilead	Lowndes	W. H. Simmons	M. H. Traylor, Benton	W. E. Mealing, Benton	39		2			1			1	39	3	25	17			3rd
Hopewell	Lowndes	A. F. Dix	C. J. Leckin, Mt. Willing	O. A. Coleman, Mt. Willing	42	1				3			2	38	4	30	20	1		1st
Macedonia	Lowndes				55															
New Bethel	Lowndes	A. F. Dix	J. R. Stricklaud, Braggs	T. S. Haygood, Braggs	40		2	1		1				42	5	23	18			4th
Orrville	Dallas	J. F. Watson	T. J. Daniels, Orrville	J. E. Dunaway, Orrville	49	4				5				48	6	58	45	2	85	1st & 3
Pleasant Hill	Dallas	J. I. Kendrick	F. C. Riggs, Pleasant Hill	J. W. Baily, Pleasant Hill	58	2	5	9		1			2	71	10	60	35	2		4th
Providence	Dallas	J. F. Watson	T W. Berry, Tasso	Lewis Johnson, Orrville	73	2			1					75	5	23				2nd & 4
Ruhama	Lowndes				9															
Selma, 1st church	Dallas	A. J. Dickinson	Edward Graham, Selma	W. P. Welch, Selma										275	20	144	95	6	6	every
Selma, 2nd church	Dallas	J F. Savell	R. W. Barnes, Selma	J. A. Mauldin, Selma	206	3	19			9	2		4	213	15	101	66	1	6	every
Shiloh	Dallas	J. B. Powell	E. H Lide, Sardis	P. W. Johnson	62		5			2			1	64	4	30	20			1st
Sister Springs	Dallas	J. M. Fortune	J. S. Hooper, Tyler	W. D. Morgan, Soapstone	36		1				1			36	6	26	15		31	1st
Town Creek	Dallas	J B. Powell	R. S. Ellis, Polk	T. E Whaley, Soapstone	58		1						1	58	9	50	40			2nd & 4